Leicester,
Oct. 13 /73.

Dear friend Garrison;

I thank you for the "Independent" of last week, which came to hand this evening. It was only last evening that I was reading a neighbor's copy of it, and of course (& specially) your article on Mr. Pitman's profoundly wise speech at the Temperance Convention. It is of a piece with the passage in Henry Wilson's history (as first pub.d in Independent) wherein he represented the Anti-slavery Societies as having spent their force & done their work somewhere about 1840 (!!) - His printed volume stands somewhat better in those respects, I believe. — I am very glad you brought Mr. Pitman to book; for his assertions are mischievous, even while they are weak, and self-contradictory as you have shown. I was so much pleased with the piece, that I purposed to write you before sleeping, and to

thank you for it. But company came in, and there were 2 or 3 letters which it was needful I should write, & so it was past eleven before my evening's work was done, — when I was too heavy & tired for more.

I have wished, each time I have been in Boston recently, to run out & see you. I particularly wanted, & want, to inquire of you about C. J.'s recent marriage, — how it came about — the suitableness of it, &c. &c. the lady's age & characteristics, &c. These themes are more appropriate for conversation than for written correspondence; and I hope before long to see you, face to face. My good mother ~~backs~~ moves back to town this week, having spent all the time, since early in June, in the country. She is pretty well, though increasingly feeble. While she was out at Milton, I used to go out there, whenever, in my Boston visits, I had a few hours to spare; and so

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it happened that I couldn't go elsewhere. Now I shall probably find it easier to go ~~about~~ more to other places. — I have from time to time heard of you, and once narrowly missed meeting you at William's office. I wish I knew that both you and your wife were greatly improved in health. We saw George's marriage announced; and we hope they are very comfortably & pleasantly established, & that they will be greatly blessed, with much peace, true content, and lasting happiness.

We are pretty well now, — having a troublesome cold which is upon me. Only Mrs. May & Bessie are now at home, Ada being with her Grandmother. Our last accounts of Edward & his family — in Honolulu — were very good. It is longer than usual since we heard from the Webbs.

Give my very affectionate regards to your wife & children, and be sure that I am, Always & truly Yours, Saml. May.

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